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UNH Researchers Find Oregon Residents Support Forest Management to Avoid Wildfires

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Tuesday, October 17, 2017

DURHAM, N.H. – Oregon residents are concerned about the health of their forests and support active forest management and restoration to reduce the risk of wildfires, according to new research published by the Carsey School of Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire.

“Without active management to alleviate the growing risk of wildfires the social, economic and ecological costs will be severe,” said the researchers. “A majority of those surveyed support active forest management (forest thinning, surface fuel reduction) and restoration to reduce the likelihood of severe wildfires like we’re seeing in California.”

The research (<https://carsey.unh.edu/publication/forest-management-oregon>), funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, was conducted by a team from UNH, Oregon State University, University of Colorado, Boulder, University of Louisville and Wallowa Resources led by Joel Hartter, a faculty fellow at the Carsey School.

The Carsey School of Public Policy conducts research, leadership development, and engaged scholarship relevant to public policy. They address pressing challenges, striving for innovative, responsive, and equitable solutions at all levels of government and in the for-profit and nonprofit sectors.

The University of New Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world. More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top ranked programs in business, engineering, law, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. UNH’s research portfolio includes partnerships with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, receiving more than \$100 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

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